

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
URBAN DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1597
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2011
HIRING OF PRIVATE LAWYERS BY DDA
Patasani Dr. (Prof.) Prasanna Kumar

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to ban hiring/engaging of private lawyers at hefty fees by the Delhi Development Authority etc. to contest their legal disputes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the policy of the Government in this regard;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the measures proposed to cut heavy expenditure for engaging private lawyers by DDA; and
- (e) the funds spent during each of the last three years?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SAUGATA ROY)

(a) : No, Madam.

(b) & (c) : Since the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) is an autonomous body, it has to engage private lawyers for contesting its cases in various courts out of the panel prepared and approved by the competent authority. DDA has reported that in cases involving high stakes of DDA, Special/Senior Counsels are engaged after approval of the competent authority. Professional fees of Special/Senior Counsels vary depending on their seniority and experience.

(d) : Keeping in view the large number of cases pending before the various courts and stakes involved, the expenditure incurred by DDA on engaging private lawyers for handling these cases is not considered as heavy.

(e) : As reported by DDA, the total fees paid by DDA to private lawyers over the last three years including fee paid to Panel Advocates and Special/Senior Counsels is as under:

2008-2009	ˆ	1,47,90,255/-
2009-2010	ˆ	1,84,54,534/-
2010-2011	ˆ	1,67,09,872/-